The peasants, who are even more eager than we to buy, fret a lot because of this. If we were to have the money, we could go anywhere to buy. Let's say to some distant part where a lord had too many expensive sweethearts in Budapest and has to sell. But the peasants already have some land. They would like to get more next to their piece or in the same neighbourhood. But the lords will not sell. In such parts the peasants have only one child. This is called the "Egyke" custom: the "one-liness". Our peasants learned this from German peasants, to whom our lords sold some land in the south-western part of our country. These peasants have only one child. The rest they "make-away", as they say. They don't want their land to become tinier and tinier bits because of the children. After one child the peasant-women go to the "old one" of the village. This is always a wise old woman. She helps them to "make the child away". The peasant-women in the districts where "one-liness" is a custom are mostly bad-tempered. They nag their men. They have much lust in their bodies. The carryings on in those villages! The luxury! The food! They eat meat every day. They have silk dresses. We are, of course, mostly barefooted. Some of us never have boots on our feet, except when we are in the army. The better off among us have boots. Of course they never wear them for work. If they have to go to the court, or sometimes if they go to the village to church, they proudly carry them on their shoulders, and before arriving in the city or village they put them on. You can save them for your son this way. And it is a proud feeling indeed to leave your son boots which he can put on when he grows up.

Oh, yes. The harvesters are here. Some of us stand about the stables and get acquainted. Others sit in front of the huts and talk. We talk a lot about our own affairs. Who has two hens, whose son has become a gentleman and sends some money home. And so on.

Our conditions have not changed very much since 1867. They were the same before the first big war of our lords, and they are the same now. A serf-servant on our *pusztas* gets twelve to forty *pengœs* a year. This is about ten to thirty shillings in your money. So the cash an average *puszta* family gets a year is never less than ten shillings and never more than thirty. In addition, we get 1200 pounds of wheat, 1000 pounds of rye and 1000 pounds of barley. We have the right to keep poultry about the house, but for every hen we have to give five eggs a year to the estate. We—a family of five or six or seven—are entitled, moreover, to 300 standard square feet of garden and 1600